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**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. A method in a logically partitioned computer system  
5 including a plurality of different partitions, said method comprising the steps of:

storing a plurality of different firmware images in said computer system; and

- 10 rebooting one of said plurality of partitions utilizing one of said plurality of firmware images without rebooting other ones of said plurality of partitions.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising  
15 the step of selecting said one of said plurality of firmware images to use to reboot said one of said plurality of partitions.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising  
20 the step of associating a different, unique firmware image identifier with each of said plurality of firmware images.

4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising  
25 the steps of:

associating a different, unique firmware image identifier with each of said plurality of firmware images;

- 30 associating a different partition table with each one of said plurality of partitions;

providing an indicator within each said different partition table, said indicator indicating whether one of

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said plurality of partitions that is associated with said partition table needs to be rebooted; and

providing an identifier within each said different partition table, said identifier identifying one of said plurality of firmware images.

5     5.     The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

10         routinely checking each said partition table to determine whether said indicator included within each said partition table indicates that one of said plurality of partitions associated with each said partition table is to be rebooted;

15         in response to a determination that an indicator indicates that one of said plurality of partitions needs to be rebooted, rebooting said one of said plurality of partitions having said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted.

20     6.     The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

25         retrieving an identifier from said partition table that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted, said identifier one of said plurality of firmware images; and

30         rebooting only said one of said plurality of partitions that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted utilizing said identifier retrieved from said partition table associated with said one of said plurality of partitions.

7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

providing a listing of said plurality of different

receiving a selection of one of said plurality of  
itions that is to be rebooted; and

receiving a selection of one of said plurality of  
firmware images to use to reboot said selected one of  
said plurality of partitions.

setting an indicator in a partition table associated with said selected one of said plurality of partitions, said indicator indicating that said one of said plurality of partitions has been selected to be rebooted; and

storing an identification of said selected one of said plurality of firmware images in said partition table associated with said selected one of said plurality of partitions.

9. A computer program product in a logically partitioned computer system including a plurality of different partitions, comprising:

instruction means for rebooting one of said plurality of partitions utilizing one of said plurality of firmware images without rebooting other ones of said plurality of partitions.

10. The product according to claim 9, further comprising instruction means for selecting said one of said plurality of firmware images to use to reboot said one of said plurality of partitions.

11. The product according to claim 9, further comprising instruction means for associating a different, unique firmware image identifier with each of said plurality of firmware images.

12. The product according to claim 9, further comprising:

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instruction means for providing an indicator within each said different partition table, said indicator indicating whether one of said plurality of partitions that is associated with said partition table needs to be rebooted; and

instruction means for providing an identifier within each said different partition table, said identifier identifying one of said plurality of firmware images.

13. The product according to claim 9, further comprising:

instruction means for routinely checking each said partition table to determine whether said indicator included within each said partition table indicates that

one of said plurality of partitions associated with each said partition table is to be rebooted;

14. The product according to claim 13, further comprising:

15 instruction means for rebooting only said one of  
said plurality of partitions that includes said indicator  
that indicates said need to be rebooted utilizing said  
identifier retrieved from said partition table associated  
with said one of said plurality of partitions.

instruction means for providing a listing of said plurality of partitions;

instruction means for receiving a selection of one of said plurality of partitions that is to be rebooted; and

30           instruction means for receiving a selection of one  
of said plurality of firmware images to use to reboot  
said selected one of said plurality of partitions.

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16. The product according to claim 15, further comprising:

instruction means for setting an indicator in a partition table associated with said selected one of said plurality of partitions, said indicator indicating that  
5 said one of said plurality of partitions has been selected to be rebooted; and

instruction means for storing an identification of said selected one of said plurality of firmware images in  
10 said partition table associated with said selected one of said plurality of partitions.

17. A logically partitioned computer system including a plurality of different partitions, comprising:

a plurality of different firmware images being  
15 stored in said computer system; and

said computer system for rebooting one of said plurality of partitions utilizing one of said plurality of firmware images without rebooting other ones of said  
20 plurality of partitions.

18. The system according to claim 17, further comprising said one of said plurality of firmware images being selected to use to reboot said one of said plurality of  
25 partitions.

19. The system according to claim 17, further comprising a different, unique firmware image identifier being associated with each of said plurality of firmware  
30 images.

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20. The system according to claim 17, further comprising:

a different, unique firmware image identifier being associated with each of said plurality of firmware

5 images;

a different partition table being associated with each one of said plurality of partitions;

an indicator being provided within each said different partition table, said indicator indicating  
10 whether one of said plurality of partitions that is associated with said partition table needs to be rebooted; and

an identifier being provided within each said different partition table, said identifier identifying  
15 one of said plurality of firmware images.

21. The system according to claim 17, further comprising:

said computer system for routinely checking each  
20 said partition table to determine whether said indicator included within each said partition table indicates that one of said plurality of partitions associated with each said partition table is to be rebooted;

in response to a determination that an indicator  
25 indicates that one of said plurality of partitions needs to be rebooted, said computer system for rebooting said one of said plurality of partitions having said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted.

30 22. The system according to claim 21, further comprising:

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an identifier being retrieved from said partition table that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted, said identifier one of said plurality of firmware images; and

- 5        said computer system for rebooting only said one of said plurality of partitions that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted utilizing said identifier retrieved from said partition table associated with said one of said plurality of partitions.

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23. The system according to claim 17, further comprising:

- a listing of said plurality of partitions;
- a listing of said plurality of different firmware

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images;

means for receiving a selection of one of said plurality of partitions that is to be rebooted; and

means for receiving a selection of one of said plurality of firmware images to use to reboot said

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selected one of said plurality of partitions.

24. The system according to claim 23, further comprising:

- 25        an indicator in a partition table associated with said selected one of said plurality of partitions being set, said indicator indicating that said one of said plurality of partitions has been selected to be rebooted; and

- 30        an identification of said selected one of said plurality of firmware images being stored in said partition table associated with said selected one of said plurality of partitions.

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